

responsive. While technically, since the preliminary amendment did not traverse a particular rejection, MPEP 707.07(f) does not apply; nevertheless the applicant respectfully requests that if the argument of this amendment is not accepted, that a non-final rejection be issued responsive hereto, since the applicant should have had that previously submitted argument fully considered.

Generally, the applicant argued, and again argues, that the addition of the new limitations removes them from the scope of the previously cited art. The rejection this paper is responsive to does not refer to applicant's argument, and it is based upon the same three previously applied references even though the rejection does use one additional previously cited reference, Shapiro.

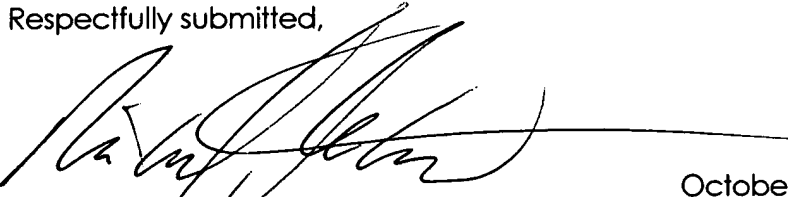
Applicant therefore reiterates its argument submitted with the preliminary amendment and speaks to the rejection further as follows.

None of the cited references speak to the problem of providing aphasics with training tuned to their problem. Nojima is directed to determining the health of recognition and understanding of a subject. Applicant's invention does not address this, but is directed to training aphasics to form correct sentences, i.e., "... the ability to select words and assemble selected words to form sentences communicating an intended meaning." (application page 1 lines 13, 14.) The Takebashi reference appears to be directed to establishing smooth speech between the system and a human user. The applicant's invention is not related to that function either. Likewise, Wen appears to seek to establish natural and smooth dialogue between the system and the human user. The applicant's invention is not concerned with this function. With respect to the newly argued Shapiro reference, it is directed to the auditory aspects of speech, and as such has nothing this writer can see to recommend it to combination with the other cited references. Further, the Shapiro reference provides feedback related to the audio quality, not the semantic content of a user response, so it is not understood how this combination would supply the missing element now introduced by the preliminary amendment, to wit, "providing feedback to the user regarding the correctness of the semantic content". No aspect of any of the cited references appears to contain a teaching of this limitation and as they are all directed toward

different problems, no combination of them could suggest it.

Accordingly, the rejection stands respectfully traversed.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael B. Atlass", written over a horizontal line.

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MARKED-UP VERSION OF CLAIM

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Please amend claim 21 as follows.

21. (Twice AMENDED) A computer assisted method for conducting speech therapy comprising:

displaying a picture, wherein the picture comprises a plurality of aspects;

generating a prompt for first information describing a first of the plurality of aspects of the picture;

inputting a speech response, wherein the input speech response includes a user-identification of the first aspect;

performing speech recognition on the input speech response, including the user-identified first aspect in order to recognize words comprising the input speech response;

performing natural language analysis of the recognized words to determine whether the user-identified first aspect accurately describes the first aspect;

repeating the steps of prompt generating, speech response inputting, speech recognition performing and natural language analysis performing for each of the remaining plurality of aspects, generating a prompt for second information, wherein the second information includes a sentence describing the entire picture,

receiving a sentence from said user responsive to said prompt,

performing natural language analysis, to analyze the semantic content of the sentence for appropriate sentence correctness, and

providing feedback to the user regarding the correctness of the semantic content of the sentence.